

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(80) 820 final

Brussels, 5 December 1980

Draft

DECISION

of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community meeting within the Council, opening tariff preferences in Greece for products covered by that Community and originating in Austria, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

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Explanatory memorandum

The additional protocols to the Free Trade Agreements signed between the ECSC and the EFTA States in order to take account of the Greek accession, provide for a first tariff reduction by Greece for ECSC products on 1 January 1981. However, these ECSC protocols have to be ratified by the national parliaments before formally entering into force. These ratification procedures will not be completed before 1 January 1981.

In order to assure that the intended tariff reductions can nonetheless be carried out, the representatives of the Member States of the ECSC meeting within the Council will have to decide the adoption of the necessary autonomous Community measures.

The EFTA States will have to assure reciprocity by adopting analogous autonomous measures.

The present proposition does not include Iceland, as that Agreement does not provide for the abolition of tariffs by the Community because Iceland is no producer.

The present decision must be taken before 1 January 1981. Greece would apply it as from that date on the basis of Article 1, paragraph 1 of the Treaty of Accession.

Draft

DECISION

of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community meeting within the Council, opening tariff preferences in Greece for products covered by that Community and originating in Austria, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland

THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY,

Whereas the Member States have concluded among themselves the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community;

Whereas Greece will accede to this Community on 1 January 1981;

Whereas the additional protocols to the Agreements concluded between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland, the Kingdom of Norway, the Kingdom of Sweden and the Swiss Confederation will enter into force on 1 January 1981;

Whereas the additional protocols to the Agreements concluded between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community and the European Coal and Steel Community of the one part and the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland, the Kingdom of Norway and the Kingdom of Sweden of the other part, as well as the additional protocol to the Agreement concluded between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community and the Swiss Confederation are subject to the approval of each Contracting Party in accordance with its own procedure;

.../...

- ★ Anxious to apply autonomously and concomitantly the tariff reductions on imports and the reductions of other import charges laid down in these additional protocols;

In agreement with the Commission,

HAVE DECIDED AS FOLLOWS :

Article 1

1. With effect from 1 January and until 31 December 1981, the duties applicable in Greece on imports of products covered by the European Coal and Steel Community and originating in Austria, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland shall be reduced to 90 % of the basic duty, or levied at the rate of 90 % of the basic duty. The basic duties referred to shall be those duties actually applied by Greece on 1 July 1980.

The charges having equivalent effect to customs duties on imports applied by Greece to imports from the countries mentioned in the preceding paragraph, shall be reduced to 90 % of the basic rate or levied at the rate of 90 % of the basic rate. The basic rates referred to shall be those rates actually applied by Greece on 31 December 1980.

2. All charges having equivalent effect to customs duties on imports introduced as from 1 January 1979 in commerce between Greece and the countries listed in paragraph 1 shall be eliminated on 1 January 1981.
3. If, in the course of the year 1981, Greece suspends or reduces duties or charges having equivalent effect on products imported from the Community of Nine more quickly than under the timetable fixed by the Act of Accession, Greece shall also suspend or reduce, to the same level, the duties or charges of equivalent effect applicable to products originating in the countries listed in paragraph 1.

Article 2

1. The import deposits and cash payments in force in Greece on 31 December 1980 with regard to imports of products originating in the countries listed in Article 1(1), shall be reduced by 25 % with effect from 1 January 1981.
2. If, in respect of the Community of Nine, Greece reduces, in the course of the year 1981, the import deposits and cash payments by a higher rate than that set out in paragraph 1, the Hellenic Republic shall make the same reduction with regard to imports originating in the countries listed in Article 1(1).

Article 3

The modifications of the origin rules which have become necessary owing to the accession of the Hellenic Republic to the European Communities and which were introduced by the Joint Committees provided for in the Agreements between the European Economic Community and the countries listed in Article 1(1), and come into force on 1 January 1981, shall be applicable to the products to which this Decision refers.

Article 4

The Member States shall decide by mutual agreement on any contingent protective measures suggested by one or more Member States or the Commission.

Article 5

This Decision shall expire on the entry into force of the additional protocols to the Agreements between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community and the European Coal and Steel Community of the one part and the countries listed in Article 1(1) of the other part, and at the latest on 31 December 1981.

Article 6

Member States shall adopt all the measures necessary for the implementation of this Decision.

Done at Brussels, 1980

The President.

